

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. While I do not think that Sinclair should be prevented from airing the pro-Bush documentary called "Stolen Honor", they should be obligated by the licensing they receive from the FCC to air programs that show an alternative viewpoint, such as the pro-Kerry program "Going Upriver" shortly afterwards.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard and should require proof that the station owners have served the public interest by airing programs that support a variety of viewpoints. Thank you.